

W. VA, 32-SWESP, 2-

WEST VIRGINIA

MONROE (32)

SWEET SPRINGS

4p

State

County

Town or Vicinity

Sweet Springs Bath House (WVA-56)

Structure

E side of WVA Rte. 311, .5 mi. S of WVA-VA border, .3 mi. NE of intersection of Rte. 311 and Rte. 3. (In grounds of Sweet Springs complex, NE of and on axis with Hotel.) Brick and frame, quadrangle (seven-bay facade) surrounding open bathing pool, one story with two-story square towers at front corners, pilasters separate bay divisions and support full Tuscan entablature which hides shed roofs sloping inward, arched fenestration; arcade between

towers houses drinking spring, other three segments of quad contain dressing rooms surrounding pool. Built mid-19th. C. Towers, which housed bath attendants, originally capped with Gothic crenellation, removed after 1940. Best preserved ante-bellum bath house of the State's many mineral springs resorts; curious amalgam of classic and (originally) Gothic detailing. 2 ext. photos (1974); 2 int. photos (1974).

Card prepared Sept. 1976

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